Section 4.4.3 - Changes Planned for 2016-2017

The Maryland Department of the Environment (MDE), in an effort to verify ozone concentrations over the Chesapeake Bay as forecast by air quality models, has placed an ozone monitor within the Bay. This monitor has policy and forecast relevance for both Maryland and other areas of the country with land/water interfaces. For example, a similar verification problem exists over the Long Island Sound. An ozone monitor in the Bay will provide "ground truth" to model forecasts. The monitor will be run as a Special Purpose Monitor (SPM) in accordance with 40 CFR Part 58, Subpart C, and is included in this Addendum to Maryland's 2017 Air Monitoring Network Plan, in accordance with §58.10.

Hart-Miller Island State Park (figure 1) is a state-owned, public recreation area located on Hart-Miller Island, a man-made landfill linking three natural Chesapeake Bay islands—Hart, Miller, and Pleasure—near the mouth of Middle River in Maryland. The state park is accessible only by boat.

The ozone monitor MDE has deployed is the 2B Technologies Personal Ozone Monitor (POM), a UV-absorption instrument designated by the US EPA as a Federal Equivalent Method (FEM) for ozone: EQOA–0815–227. The POM was deployed to Hart-Miller Island on July 6, 2016, and was fully operational by July 13. Due to contractual restrictions, the POM will be decommissioned by October 1, 2016, and redeployed next April 1, 2017, or sooner, weather conditions permitting.



Figure 1. Map of Hart-Miller Island, Baltimore County, MD, and the location of the 2B POM ozone analyzer.